

HONORING MARGARET ELDER

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Elder, a teacher at Anaheim High School for being selected as one of 32 teachers tapped for Disney's annual American Teacher Awards.

The 32 selected teachers are chosen from a field of over 185,000 from across the nation.

Award winners are selected for their innovative approaches to teaching that are above and beyond the standard school curriculum.

In these tough economic times, as teachers work with limited resources and many programs in our schools being hurt by budget cuts and lack of proper funding, it is particularly inspiring to have teachers like Ms. Elder in our schools.

It is my privilege to congratulate her on this accomplishment. Our educational system and our teachers are our most important asset and we must support them: Not just for our children, but for our future.

AMERICAN INDIAN TRUST FUND  
MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT  
AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2003

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join our colleague Congressman MARK UDALL in introducing the "American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act Amendments Act of 2003." This bill is a sound proposal for the reform of the management of assets and funds held in trust by the United States for individual Indians and federally recognized Indian tribes.

For well over a century the Federal Government has been the trustee of funds generated from leases on Indian lands. For almost as long, the Federal Government has been charged with mismanaging these funds. To this day tribal and individual Indian account holders cannot be assured that the balances the Department of Interior claims are in their accounts are accurate.

Much attention has been given to the Cobell v. Norton class action lawsuit which was filed in 1996 on behalf of some 300,000 individual Indian money account holders. But regardless of what happens in this case, the current management and administration of Indian trust lands and trust funds by the Department of the Interior (DOI) is inadequate and must be reformed.

Enactment of this bill would elevate trust fund management within DOI, affirm trust standards, and ensure Indian tribes have a greater management role over their assets and funds. These are all elements needed for reform of the system as determined by the Task Force on Trust Fund Reform, the Intertribal Monitoring Association and the National Congress of American Indians.

I commend Mr. UDALL for introducing this important bill and thereby starting the trust fund reform discussion in the House of Representatives. I remain open to other legislative

proposals and am committed to working with Indian country towards true reform and protection of Indian trust funds.

HONORING THE TOWN OF  
CUMBERLAND GAP, TENNESSEE

**HON. ZACH WAMP**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the historic town of Cumberland Gap, Tennessee as they celebrate their 200th anniversary of postal service.

Cumberland Gap has long been a place of historic passage. In pre-Colonial America, the Gap served Native Americans as a pivotal crossing for their trading and hunting routes through the Appalachian Mountains. Later, Daniel Boone and his 29 "axe men" blazed a 208 mile trail into central Kentucky providing a route for pioneer families to travel west. During the Civil War, Cumberland Gap gained military significance, becoming known as the "Gibraltar of America" and the "Keystone of the Confederacy."

Today however, in the age of flight, travelers through Cumberland Gap come not to get through the mountains, but to escape into them. The natural beauty of the surrounding area and the Gap's rich cultural history make it a popular destination for travelers of all ages and interests. From hikers to historians, people continue to be drawn to the "gap between the mountains."

Time has almost stood still in the small Appalachian town of Cumberland Gap. As you walk through the quiet streets, you are greeted with architecture from the late 1800's and the 1920's. The streets are snap shots from the past, illustrating the progression of history even through today. The town's rich history, quiet charm and natural beauty are especially appealing for cultural tourism.

Just as the historic parade marched through the Gap for more than 200 years, the procession is not yet finished. Today the town of Cumberland Gap, the natural starting point for an journey into the Cumberland Gap National Park, is a haven for day hikers, adventure hikers and cycle enthusiasts. Whether you are seeking history, culture or adventure, Cumberland Gap is always a great place to be.

On July 19, this historic town celebrates 200 years of postal service with a day of interpretive presentations of what life was like in the early 1800's including "living history" exhibits throughout the town. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join them on this important day and I wish the town of Cumberland Gap many years of continued success.

CELEBRATING THE 14TH EDITION  
OF PAN-AMERICAN GAMES IN  
THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 14th edition of the Pan-American games, this year to be held in Santo

Domingo Dominican Republic, from August 1st to August 17th.

Since 1951, the games have carried the Olympic spirit of trying to build and strengthen international cooperation through friendly, but no less intense, competition between the countries of the Western Hemisphere. In a time when we are engaged in a global struggle against terrorism, poverty and disease, the sight of some of the region's best athletes coming sharing the same stage peacefully gives the world hope that our current struggles are just a prologue to better days.

This year's games are also a source of pride to Dominicans all over the world, especially those who live in my district's neighborhood of Washington Heights. While putting on an event of such magnitude is a challenge for any nation, there is no doubt in my mind that the world will be treated to a world-class celebration full of the best of Dominican culture. It is also a chance to sow the seeds of future economic development by showing the world that any stage can shine brightly from Santo Domingo.

So it is with great enthusiasm that I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all the participants and organizers in advance for all their achievements and hard work. Let us hope that the Pan-American Games' motto, loosely translated as "The American spirit of friendship through sports," not only lasts beyond these two weeks in August, but also extends beyond sports and the island of Hispaniola into the hearts of all of the world's citizens.

HONORING STEPHANIE MCCRAY—  
INTERN IN MY WASHINGTON, DC,  
OFFICE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ms. Stephanie McCray, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in national government.

Stephanie is a senior public policy studies major and economics and religion minor at Duke University and has distinguished herself as an intern in my Washington office by serving the great people of the 6th district of Missouri. Stephanie joined my staff for the 108th Congress as part of the House of Representatives intern program at the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C., a program designed to involve students in the legislative process through active participation. Through this program, Stephanie has had the opportunity to observe firsthand the inner workings of national government and has gained valuable insight into the process by which laws are made.

During her time as an intern in my office, Stephanie has successfully demonstrated her abilities in the performance of such duties as conducting research, helping with constituent services, and assuming various other responsibilities to make the office run as smoothly as possible. Stephanie has earned recognition as a valuable asset to the entire U.S. House of Representatives and my office through the application of her knowledge and skills acquired